SI. No.	Name of Project	Major/ Medium	River/ Basin	District Benefitted	Date of Receipt	Benefits (Thousand hectare)	Estt. Cost (Rs. Crore)	Status
2.	Sri Dashmesh irrigation Project	Major	Anandpur Hydel Channel	Patiala	2/2001	130.00	647	A
3.	Raising lining of Bhakra Main Canal	Major	Sutlej		3/02		2669	A
4.	Modified Project estimate of SYL canal Part-Ill	Major	Siitlej	Ropar Patiala	6/94	130.00	195.44	A
5.	Rehabilitation 1st Patiala feeder and Kotla Branch	Major	Sutlej/ Beas	Ludhiana, Sangrur, Barnala	11/05	265.49	108.56	A
6.	SYL Main Canal Part-I 7.	Major	Sutlej Yamuna	Carrier Channel	09/94	8.330	601.25	B
8.	Raising of Lining/Bank of Sirhind Feeder	Medium	Ferozpur Feeder	Ferozpur	5/2001		13.7543	A
		Medium	Ravi	Gurdaspur Amritsar & Patiala	2/2000		49.02	B

A- Project under various stages of appraisal.
B-Accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain
observations.

Development of ground water

2266. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Ground Water Authority is responsible for regulation and control of ground water development and its management; and

(b) whether the Authority has assessed the lowering of ground water level in various places in the country its causes and the measures needed for improving the level of ground water particularly in water scarce areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) "Water", being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take steps for regulation and control of ground water development and its management. However, the Supreme Court of India *vide* its Order dated 10.12.1996 had directed the Central Government to constitute the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) as an Authority under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water management and development. In pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Government have constituted the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(b) Ground water levels are periodically monitored by the CGWB as well as State Ground Water Organizations. Lowering of ground water levels has been observed in various places in the country. The main reasons for decline in ground water levels have been rapid pace of urbanization resulting in reduced natural recharge to aquifers, increased demand for agriculture, industrial and drinking purposes, change in cropping pattern, excessive withdrawal of ground water etc.

With a view to effecting control on withdrawal of ground water, the CGWA has notified 11 critica!/over-exploited areas in the country. A Model Bill has also been circulated to the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development. In addition, steps have been taken to adopt artificial recharge and rain water harvesing measures, which include circulation of manual/guidelines on artificial recharge of ground water to the State Governments/Union Territories. Steps have also been taken for creation of mass awareness on water conservation by holding mass awareness and training programmes on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water. Water conservation campaigns have also been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers etc., and publicity done through mass media etc.